THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The details are as follows:

| Sl.No. | Name of Project | Date of Receipt. | Stage of consideration as on 18-2-93. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Rayalaseema TPS Stage-II-2x210 MW . . . | Dec.,92 | Project considered by the Expert Committee on 21-1-93. |
| 2 | Manuguru Shaft Block-I-Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd' | Jan.,93 | Under Processing |

**बिरला मिल द्वारा नदी का प्रदूषण**

183. **श्री सोम पाल** : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 10 फरवरी, 1992 के "दि टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया" में "बिरला मिल इज़ पोल्यूटिंग रीवर" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तुंगभद्रा नदी को प्रदूषण-मुक्त बनाने के लिए सरकार ने अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ; और

(ग) उक्त नदी में प्रदूषण की वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है ?

**पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमलनाथ)** : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) और (ग) कर्नाटक राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड तुंगभद्रा नदी की निर्धारित जल-गुणवत्ता को बनाए रखने के लिए उसकी निगरानी कर रहा है । बोर्ड, मैसर्स हरिहर पोली फाइबर्स लि० द्वारा विसर्जित शोधित बहिस्रावों की गुणवत्ता की भी निगरानी कर रहा है । कर्नाटक राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने यूनिट को निदेश दिया है कि वह एक निश्चित समय के भीतर मानकों का अनुपालन करे । उद्योग ने निर्धारित मानकों और बहिस्राव-उत्पादन की मात्रा का अनुपालन करने के लिए कदम उठाए हैं । निगरानी किए जा रहे नदी के भागों की गुणवत्ता को परम्परागत शोधन और कीटाणु-मुक्त करने के बाद पीने के योग्य निर्दिष्ट किया जाता है । ऐसा नदी के कुछ भागों के लिए किया जा रहा है ।

**Forest area in the country**

184. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) what are the trends observed in the area under forest cover in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any special plan to increase the cover in the near future; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) On the basis of the State of Forest Reports by the Forest Survey of India, forest area of the country recorded during the las* three years is as under:—

| Year | Forest area in Sq Km |
|---|---|
| 1989-90 . . . | 77,00,78 |
| 1990-91 . . . | 77,00,78 |
| 1991-92 . . . | 77,00,78 |

(b) and (c) To increase the *forest* cover, a massive programme of afforestation, Social & farm forestry under the 20 Point Programme is pursued vigorously with people's participation. During the Seventh Five Year period 8.8 milliota hectares were planted up against the target of 8.2 million hectares.

It is proposed to substantially expand the coverage of afforestation/ tree planting activities during the Eighth Five Year Plan, which is under finalisation.

**Damage due to the leak of the oil tanker "Maersk Navigator"**

185. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE; SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any spot assessment of damage on fish and marine life due to the oil leak from the oil tanker "Maersk Navigator" which met with an accident on January 21, 1993;

(b) if so, what has been its effect on the lives of tribals living o$_n$ these Islands and a wide variety of fish and Marine life availabit in these areas; find

(c) what steps have been taken to control the leak and to ensure that the slick moved away from the Nico-bar coast; the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The research vessel, 'Sagar Kanya', of the Department of' Oceian Development with the scientists of National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, on board, has undertaken marine surveys to collect, samples lat the area of the oil spill. A second cruise will be conducted to study the long term effect on marine life. An assessment of damage to marine and tribals life and environment in monetary term can be made only after detailed scientific analysis.

(c) The following measures Have been taken by the Coast Guard to tackle -the oil spill and to minimise its effect on marine life in the region :—

(i) Continued monitoring of movement of damaged tanker and oil spill was undertaken using air and ship surveillance. The oil leakage from the tanker has already been plucked;

(ii) Combating the oil slick by aerial and ship spray of chemical dispersant;

(iii) The damaged tanker was ordered to be cleared of the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone waters as early as possible;

(iv) Water samples were collected from affected area for analysis; and

(v) The operations lasted from 22nd January, 1993 to 6th February, 1993. A complete sweep of the area was carried out to ensure that all remnants of the oil slicks were effectively neutralised.

**Climatic Changes**

186. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleiased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report of inter-governmental panel or climatic change (IPCC) and its discrepancies between developed and developing world;

(b) if so, whlat action has been taken by Government to correct the IPCC report after Post-Rio Summit; and

(c) the details thereof and on the issue of sharing the burden of cost of reducing CO2 emission?